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23
uses for
a 5-in-1
tool

This Old House

NOVEMBER 2006

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perfect kitchen

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BOSE
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We were energy efficient before it was cool. Or hot.



Black-Clawson, Ltd. window



High-Dryco-Hung window



Clayton Industries steel door

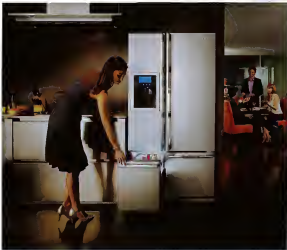
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letter FROM THIS OLD HOUSE

Why I Hate Magazines

YOU SEE THE PHOTO ON THE COVER of the magazine that you're holding in your hands right now?

I hate it. And the other pictures of that same house, in ads on page 72? Hate 'em, too. I mean, flip back to the cover and look at that fireplace mantel. It's perfect. Look at the chess cabinet. It's perfect. The floor—perfect. Heck, the whole damned place is perfect. If I had a sharp enough saw in my workshop, I'd cut out my own legs, those pictures made me so jealous.

The mantel in my house is most definitely not perfect. Mine's been since I started working on restoring it five years ago. My floor's not perfect either—not where it slopes enough to host a soapbox derby, not upstairs where you could fall through it. My walls have something to be desired, likewise the stairs, and you can forget about the ceilings. Lord knows I'd like to.

That's the thing about working in a magazine like *The Old House*: You see all these beautiful places, meet all these talented craftspeople, and discover all these bright ideas and exceptional products, and then you go home. Home, where the heart, but never that magazine-photo-shoot perfection, is.

As we were putting this issue of *TOH* together, I was saying this very thing to *TOH* editor editor Betsy Anderson. Maybe she was tired of hearing our complaints about my place with its never-ending restoration, because before I knew it my arms were crossed behind my back and she was putting photos of my house up on our website. Betsy will do anything to get people to go to thisoldhouse.com to see how awful it is, and that includes giving readers the opportunity to laugh at what kind of a wreck I live in. I'm hoping the public chime will inspire me to once and for all get the damned place into shape. Or maybe it'll just provide you with a good snicker. Either way, it's still gonna be a long time before I don't hate that house on the cover.

Scott O'Connell

SCOTT O'CONNELL
EDITOR



For better or worse, you'll find more snaps of my place at thisoldhouse.com/shortcuts.

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Hands-Free Faucets

Optional manual control and new wireless technology make sensor-powered spigots kitchen-ready

A NOVELTY IN PUBLIC BATHROOMS—Leak, Ma, no hands!—the sleek faucets are moving into the kitchen. With pre-set features such as high-arc settings made for pre-filling, pull-down spigots for mixing produce, and the ability to switch from automatic to manual control, these new high-tech spigots are designed for serious K-Pops.

The faucets, which turn on and off using motion-sensor and light sensors, help prevent the spread of germs because you never have to touch controls with grimy mitts. They also conserve water by doing it out only on demand. The technology has been around for about 30 years, but past problems with trigger-lag or inappropriate sensors, inconveniently placed sensors and manual controls, and the hassle of wiring the sensors have previously made hands-free impractical in kitchens.

The Puma from Delta and the Puraal from InSinkErator address all that with water-savings sensors, sleek-scented handles, manual controls for when you want old-school control, and built-in laundry packs, an electrical work required. Another option is Kohler's Whisper, a hands-free-only faucet that installed once your existing manual one for use when rinsing a raw fish or chicken. "Just as people sit at upscale dining booths for most, you can have expensive luxury," says Les Fruch, senior product manager for Kohler.

Like those first-generation Apple iPods, these new-fangled faucets are pricey. But as the technology evolves and more manufacturers introduce competing designs, the cost will likely come down. —NATALIE KOTROUZE

Found in kitchens, \$595; InSinkErator Puma in chrome \$700; delta.com; Whispering in chrome, \$590; kohler.com.

SPEAKING OF TOUCHLESS TECHNOLOGY:



DRYADFIRE POWDER (dustproof) bottles (available in 100- and 250-gram sizes) of powder and bacteria-free spray (both). There are also automatic soap, see E.C. 10.



HANDWASHERS (see page 10) are now available in 100- and 250-gram sizes. They are available in 100- and 250-gram sizes. They are available in 100- and 250-gram sizes.



GREENWASHERS (for every minute's use) are in 100- and 250-gram sizes. They are available in 100- and 250-gram sizes. They are available in 100- and 250-gram sizes.





**DOWNTOWN MAYSVILLE
HISTORIC DISTRICT,
MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY**

Myiarchus cinerascens in its old haunts and birds of migrating birds of the same species across the Gulf River to get off of Kentucky and to the. They had been the birds of the old world and to be in the in the late 1900s as "The Northern Gateway to Kentucky" Antioch 1911 it was incorporated as Myiarchus. Among the names in the book were David Boone, Thomas S. Grant, and legendary pioneer Rosemary Chappin (1908) "Success Man" (1908) nephew George, was a frequent visitor.

Set high atop a bluff overlooking the Ohio River, Mayfield looks like it was torn from the pages of a Mark Twain novel (a TV version of *Huckleberry Finn*

streets of the Downtown Mayville Historic District are lined with both lavishly preserved and beautifully refurbished houses, theaters, and commercial warehouses. Most of them date to the town's 19th-century boomtown era, when Mayville became an important stop for overland shipping tobacco and other crops down to New Orleans. For more information about Mayville, visit cityofmayville.com. —info@mayville.com

$$\frac{Q}{A}$$

When faced with a daunting project too large for a season of themselves paper craftsmen find that their passion serves to stimulate a holy wonder. Thom Arden, Executive, a young engineer at Fisher-Cable, thought of a way to bring the power of the electrical machine straight to the job site, effectively obviating all vestiges of labor time.

When did Emerson introduce the first portable electric light system?

A. 304E B. 173H C. 180F D. 107D

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Twelve to stickiness in the adhesive areas, where three new glues—Scotch, Elmer, and, representing Kline's Unimate, a scorching ball—are trying to overthrow Gorilla, the reigning champ of stickiness. The glue

THE CONTENDERS



115



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the two rarely meet in the wild. Not that
male reality stops the Elders gray from
bleating. "We're stronger, better, tougher!"

In that end, we at TON aren't quite sure where to believe, but we are willing to wager a million bucks that any one of these accounts would increase the San Diego *Crabman*. —JULIEN SQUERONE

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"Well Where Do You Think You Lost It?"

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